

**AMENDMENT**

Kindly amend the application, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Kindly amend the specification, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, to read as follows:

Please rewrite the heading at page 6, line 25, to read as follows:

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Please rewrite the paragraph at page 16, lines 7-13, to read as follows:

A possible signal peptide cleavage site is located between amino acids 44 and 45 (Table 3; calculated with SignalP (<http://www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/SignalP>), a program based on neural networks for analyzing signal sequences {Nielsen H. et. al. (1997) Protein Engineering 10:1-6}). This gives for the processed protein (without signal peptide) a molecular weight (MW) of 70.3 kd (70323 dalton) and an isoelectric point of pH=7.01.